

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

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R 090950Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3356

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PASS AGRICULTURE

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EAGR, PO

SUBJECT: AGRARIAN REFORM IMPLEMENTING MEASURES ANNOUNCED

REF: LISBON 3825 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE HAS TAKEN SEVERAL ACTIONS TO FURTHER IMPLEMENT THE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM. THEY PROVIDE THAT (1) EXPROPRIATED AND NATIONALIZED LANDS WILL BE TURNED OVER TO RURAL COOPERATIVES UNDER PILOT PROJECTS DESIGNED TO WORK OUT PROBLEMS RELATING TO REDISTRIBUTION OF LANDS AND SELECTION OF PROPER SIZE AND STRUCTURE OF UNITS; (2) FUNDS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO INSURE THE FUNCTIONING OF COOPERATIVES AND PAYMENT OF WAGES; (3) REGIONAL AGRARIAN REFORM CENTERS WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO REQUISITION FARM MACHINERY FROM LARGE FARMERS. END SUMMARY

2. THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCED JULY 7 THAT EXPROPRIATED AND NATIONALIZED FARM LANDS WOULD BE TURNED  
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OVER TO COOPERATIVES COMPOSED OF RURAL WORKERS, SMALL

TENANTS AND SHARECROPPERS. SEVERAL PILOT PROJECTS WILL BE SET UP, AND PARTICIPANTS WILL BE IMMEDIATE BENEFICIARIES OF AGRARIAN REFORM. THE FIRST ALLOCATION OF LAND WILL BEGIN DURING COMING CROP YEAR (OCTOBER 1975). CREATION OF THESE PILOT PROJECTS WILL ALLOW WORKING OUT OF PROBLEMS ARISING FROM LAND REDISTRIBUTION, AS WELL AS SELECTION OF PROPER SIZE AND STRUCTURING OF PRODUCTIVE UNITS. AFTER RESULTS OF THE PILOT PROJECTS ARE ANALYSED, THE EXPROPRIATED AND NATIONALIZED LANDS WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A BASIS YET TO BE DETERMINED. LANDS WILL BE UTILIZED COLLECTIVELY AND GENERALLY NOT DIVIDED INTO PRIVATELY-HELD PLOTS.

3. THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE HAS ISSUED AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AGRARIAN RESTRUCTURE TO ALLOCATE ABOUT US\$880,000 TO REGIONAL AGRARIAN REFORM CENTERS FOR COVERING EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH MANAGEMENT OF PRODUCTIVE UNITS (NEW RURAL COOPERATIVES) BEING FORMED UNDER AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM. FUNDS CAN ALSO BE USED FOR PAYMENT OF WAGES TO MEMBERS.

4. ANOTHER ORDER ISSUED BY AGRICULTURE MINISTER ESTABLISHES THAT DIRECTORS OF REGIONAL AGRARIAN REFORM CENTERS CAN REQUISITION FARM MACHINERY WHICH IS NOT BEING FULLY UTILIZED FROM LARGE FARMERS WHENEVER DEEMED NECESSARY AND ADVISABLE. STATED RATIONALE FOR ACTION IS NEED TO ENSURE HARVESTING OPERATIONS PROCEED WITHOUT A HITCH AND ASSERTION THAT THERE IS FARMING MACHINERY, NAMELY COMBINES, WHICH ARE UNDERUTILIZED OR NOT UTILIZED.

5. COMMENT: THESE ARE THE FIRST AMONG MANY ANTICIPATED ACTIONS BY THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM. ACTION ALLOWING REQUISITIONING OF FARM MACHINERY FROM LARGE FARMERS IS AN INDICATION OF GOVERNMENT'S DISTASTE FOR THIS GROUP AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT CONCERN IN INSURING THE LARGEST POSSIBLE GRAIN HARVEST. A FURTHER INDICATION OF THIS CONCERN IS THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN TO ORGANIZE SMALL AND MEDIUM FARMERS TO COMBAT FIRES, WHICH FREQUENTLY OCCUR AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. THE CAMPAIGN IS BEING COORDINATED BY THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL MILITARY COMMAND IN A FURTHER EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN DIRECT LINKS BETWEEN THE ARMED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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